Government to arrange soft loans through Rural Electrification Corporation and other Banks and Financial institutions.

(c) The Union Government provides funds for rural electrification through Rural Electrification Corporation at 12% rate of interest for a period of 20 to 30 years. This rate of interest is cheaper than on the loans extended by the Union Government to other Power generating companies.

In order to improve the financial performance of the State Electricity Boards, the Government of India has issued guidelines which inter-alia include improvement in plant load factor of thermal stations by 3% annually, reduction of T & D losses by 1% per annum, tariff rationalisation etc. These guidelines are only indicative and the States have the option to follow any other route to make the SEBs commercially and financially viable.

Fruits and Vegetables

64. SHRI SATYAJITSINH DULIPSINH GAEKWAD :
SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK :

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the loss of fruits and vegetables every year due to non-availability of food processing industries; and

(b) the steps taken to ensure full utilisation of fruits and vegetables production in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY) : (a) Although no specific survey has been conducted to assess the loss or decay of fruits and vegetables for want of processing, the net unutilised quantity due to inadequacy of post-harvest infrastructure and processing facilities, may not exceed 5%.

(b) The Government provides assistance under its various Plan Schemes, to create infrastructural facilities, additional processing capacity, market development etc. with a view to increase utilisation of fruits and vegetables.

Employment Schemes

65. SHRI GORDHANBHAI JAVIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the amount provided by the Union Government to Gujarat for different urban employment schemes during 1995-96 has been utilised;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the amount is likely to be utilised by the State Government on the implementation of these schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Two Centrally sponsored employment schemes viz., (i) Nehru Rozgar Yojana (NRY) and Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMIUPEP) are being implemented in the State of Gujarat. The State Government of Gujarat has reported that the amount provided by the Union Government under these schemes during 1995-96 has been partly (about 50%) utilised.

(b) Because of the 74th Amendment in the Constitution of India, the State Govt. had taken up the matter for reconstituting the Municipalities and Nagar Panchayats during the year 1995-96. Therefore, no progress has made under the Scheme of Housing and Shelter Upgradation (SHASU) and Urban Micro Enterprises (SUME), hence the unutilized portion. But the progress under the Scheme of Urban Wage Employment (SUWE) has been more successful.

(c) The remaining amount is likely to be spent before the end of the current financial year i.e. 1996-97.

Unauthorised Construction

66. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether action has been taken against all unauthorised construction in Government flats and encroachment in Horticulture Park, CPWD, D-Block, Type-II, Netaji Nagar;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The CPWD has reported unauthorised constructions in eight Type-II flats in D-Block, Netaji Nagar. Show cause Notices have been issued by the Directorate of Estates to all the allottees under the Allotment Rules. Encroachment in Horticulture Park in D-Block, Netaji Nagar has since been removed by the CPWD.

(c) Does not arise.

Drought Prone Areas Programme

67. SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VARMA :
SHRI P.S. GADHAVI :

Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have made a

provision of Rs. 195 crores for 1996-97 for giving better deal to the poor in rural areas;

(b) if so, the details of areas proposed to be covered under (i) Drought Prone Area Programme and (ii) Desert Development Programme; and

(c) the amount earmarked for each State under this programme during the current financial year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) An amount of Rs. 6437 crore has been provided in the Central Budget for the Department of Rural Employment and Poverty Alleviation during 1996-97, out of which Rs. 125 crores and Rs. 100 crores has been earmarked for Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP) and Desert Development Programme (DDP) respectively.

(b) 947 Blocks in 149 Districts of 13 States are covered under DPAP and 227 Blocks in 36 Districts of 7 States are under DDP respectively.

(c) The allocation made for each State under DPAP and DDP during 1996-97 is given in the enclosed Statement.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	Name of States	Allocation for 1996-97	Central Share
1	2	3	4
Drought Prone Areas Programme (DPAP)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2755.00	1377.50
2.	Bihar	2245.00	1122.50
3.	Gujarat	1545.00	772.50
4.	Himachal Pradesh	165.00	82.50
5.	Jammu & Kashmir	495.00	247.50
6.	Karnataka	2290.00	1145.00
7.	Madhya Pradesh	3752.00	1876.00
8.	Maharashtra	4295.00	2147.50
9.	Orissa	1045.00	522.50
10.	Rajasthan	871.00	435.50
11.	Tamil Nadu	1485.00	742.50
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2185.00	1092.50
13.	West Bengal	640.00	320.00
	Total	23768.00	11884.00
Desert Development Programme (DDP)			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	540.00	405.00
2.	Gujarat	1814.00	1593.00
3.	Haryana	649.00	604.00
4.	Himachal Pradesh	500.00	500.00
5.	Jammu and Kashmir	1000.00	1000.00
6.	Karnataka	732.00	548.00
7.	Rajasthan	5258.00	5258.00
	Total	10493.00	9908.00

Supply of Gas

68. SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI :
SHRI SHANTILAL PARSOTAMDAS PATEL :
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Gujarat has been requesting the Union Government for the supply of Gas to Pipavav power project for a long time;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether gas was to be supplied from Oman gas pipeline project which has since been abandoned by that Government;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have decided now to supply from the Tapti Oilfield to this power project; and

(f) if not, the reasons thereof and the alternative arrangement proposed by the Government for the supply of Gas to Pipavav Power project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b). Requests have been received from time to time from the Government of Gujarat for allocation of gas to the Pipavav power project.

(c) and (d). Linkages for the gas proposed to be imported from Oman and yet to be decided.

(e) and (f). It has been decided to take the gas from Mid-Tapti and South Tapti to Hazira to meet existing commitments at Hazira and along the HBJ pipeline. The Government of Gujarat has been advised to base the Pipavav power project on alternative fuels.

[Translation]

MPLADS

69. SHRI K.D. SULTANPURI : Will the Minister of STATE FOR PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether many States have not been allocated funds this year to carry out development works in their respective States under MPLADS;

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor, State-wise; and